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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
Hideo ANDO, et al. : EXAMINER:  
SERIAL NO: New Application :  
FILED: Herewith : GROUP ART UNIT:  
FOR: INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM,  
INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD  
AND APPARATUS, AND INFORMATION  
PLAYBACK METHOD AND APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-20 without prejudice and add new Claims 21-32 as follows:

- 1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)

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7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)

21. (New) An information recording method for recording information on a recording medium having a first area and a second area, the information recording method comprising the steps of:

recording at least video or audio stream information in the first area; and

recording management information in the second area, said management information being referred to when the video or audio stream information recorded in said first area is reproduced,

wherein each of the steps of recording at least video or audio stream information and said recording management information includes the steps of:



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25. (New) An information recording apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the video or audio stream information, and said extent management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the extent content information.

26. (New) An information recording apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said control information is playback information.

27. (New) An information recording medium having a first area and a second area, the information recording medium comprising:

at least video or audio stream information recorded in the first area; and

management information recorded in the second area, said management information being referred to when the video or audio stream information recorded in said first area is reproduced,

wherein extent content information is recorded in the first area, and extent management information corresponding to the extent content information is recorded in the second area.

28. (New) An information recording medium according to claim 27, wherein said management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the video or audio stream information, and said extent management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the extent content information.

29. (New) An information recording medium according to claim 28, wherein said control information is playback information.

30. (New) An information reproducing apparatus for reproducing information from a medium having a first area and a second area, the information reproducing apparatus comprising:

video file or audio file reproducing means for reproducing at least video or audio stream information in the first area; and

management information reproducing means for reproducing management information in the second area, said management information being referred to when the at least video or audio stream information recorded in said first area is reproduced;

extent content recording means for recording extent content information in the first area; and

extent management information recording means for recording extent management information corresponding to the extent content information in the second area.

31. (New) An information recording medium according to claim 30, wherein said management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the video or audio stream information, and said extent management information includes control information for a reproducing order of the extent content information.

32. (New) An information recording medium according to claim 31, wherein said control information is playback information.--

#### **REMARKS**

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 21-32 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1-20 having been canceled and Claims 21-32 having been newly added by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

Newly added Claims 21-32 find clear support in the original specification, claims and drawings. For example, Claims 21-32 are supported by Figure 17, the "PGC control information" and Cell Playback Information" on the left side of Figure 17 corresponding to "management information," the "Video Object Information" on the left side of Figure 17 corresponding to "video file or audio file," the Expanded PGC Control Information" and "Expanded Cell Playback Information" on the right side of Figure 17 corresponding to "expanded management information," and the "Expanded Video Object Information" on the right side of Figure 17 corresponding to "extent content information." Hence, new Claims 21-32 are not believed to raise a question of new matter.

Examination on the merits of Claims 21-32 and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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